

# Corps boat becomes float for Christmas parade

by Phil Martinez  
Park Ranger, Abiquiu Lake

Personnel from our Abiquiu Dam Office participated for the first time in the Espanola Valley Christmas Light Parade on Dec. 14. The parade is quickly becoming one of the best and biggest Christmas light parades in the state. An estimated 18,000 people lined the streets to view all the lighted floats. The Abiquiu Lake crew got into the holiday spirit by decorating the Corp boat with hundreds of multi-colored lights. Operations Manager David Dutton, Albert Branch, David Griego, Roger Apodaca, Paul Serrano, Leo Trujillo, Alfred Chavez, Martha Gallegos and Phil Martinez worked like little elves to get the patrol boat ready. Several family members also participated and were on board the boat during the parade. Our thanks to Christmas volunteers: Jessica and Darlene, and Rose and Mary.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers was well represented, and were kept busy handing out hundreds of bags filled with coloring books and water safety materials. This year's parade theme was, "All I Want For Christmas". Everyone had a fine and enjoyable time and the Abiquiu Lake Crew is already planning for next year's parade. ■



**This was the first time a Corps boat was featured in the annual northern New Mexico parade.**

## Garcia chosen District Member of the Year

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acquiring and organizing GIS equipment and software for Operations Division projects. Mathers was recognized for selflessly gaining the GIS tools, technology and information needed for the District to keep up with rapidly changing circumstances and customer requirements.

Gail Stockton, Reservoir Control Branch, Operations Division, is the project manager for the development of the Upper Rio Grande Water Operations Model (URGWOM). Stockton is responsible for the interagency coordination, budgeting, programming, and all associated activities necessary to complete this project. She is also the project manager for the Upper Rio Grande Water Operations Review



**John Adams Middle School students entertain District employees with a Christmas concert at the conclusion of the Town Hall.**

(URGWOPS) and Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). At a time when the newspapers are full of articles about our current water wars in the Rio Grande Basin, Stockton was commended for steadily working toward the completion of a huge inter-

agency project that is evaluating and analyzing water operations that will help solve some of these water resources challenges.

Mary Henry is a Contract Specialist and Contracting Officer for construction, A&E, supply and service contracts. Henry was cited as a total acquisition professional. She was commended for being a "doer" who knows how to make things happen effectively and efficiently. I

Following the awards ceremony, students from John Adams Middle School entertained District employees by performing a Christmas concert, which was thoroughly enjoyed by everyone. ■